



### **U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Jeremy M. deVries**

Gunnery Sgt. Jeremy M. de Vries is a 12-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps and is currently serving as part of the Why We Serve speakers program. He recently returned from assignment in Iraq and is speaking to groups around the country about his personal experiences serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In November of 2006, de Vries returned after a 12-month deployment to Iraq, where he was assigned to a Military Transition Team and was stationed at Forward Operating Base Duke and Forward Operation Base Kalsu. While deployed, de Vries served as a Senior Enlisted Advisor and Logistics Chief for the 8th Division 4th Brigade 1st Iraqi Army Battalion. He also served as a vehicle driver, gunner, and commander, as well as an improvised explosive device reaction trainer.

Born in Canada and raised in Crossville, Tenn., de Vries graduated from Cumberland High School and immediately joined the Marine Corps. de Vries is married to Cathy of East Peoria, Illinois, and is the proud father of Hunter, and proud stepfather of Brady and Jessica. He currently resides in Camp Pendleton, Calif., and is assigned as 1st Marine Regiment Logistics Chief where he was responsible for devising and implementing a logistics tracking system which streamlined the logistics tracking process.

de Vries' decorations include a Navy Commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Achievement Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal and Global War on Terror Service Medal.